

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HARTFORD, CONNECTED TO
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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

September 30, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222 Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: EX PARTE FILING - Two Copies Submitted to be filed in CC Docket No. 98-25 FCC Release Number: DA 98-381[13 FCC Rcd 4516 (2/28/98) In the Matter of SBC Communications Inc. and Southern New England Telecommunications Corporation Request for FCC Consent for Transfer of Control"

Dear Ms. Salas:

On September 30, 1998, Governor Rowland mailed the attached letter to FCC Chairman William Kennard. In accordance with 47 C.F.R. 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, I am submitting two copies of that letter for filing in the above-captioned proceeding.

Please file stamp the additional enclosed copy and return it to me in the enclosed addressed postage prepaid envelope. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

If you have any questions about the letter or this filing, do not hesitate to call me at 860-524-7316.

Sincerely

Brendan Fox Legal Counsel

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Enclosure

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September 30, 1998

William Kennard, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20554

RE: Communications Inc. and Southern New England
Telecommunications Corporation Request For Federal
Communications Commission Consent for a Proposed
Transfer of Control

Dear Chairman Kennard:

I am writing to request your support and the Commission's approval of the recent request by SBC Communications. (SBC) and the Southern New England Telecommunications Corporation (SNET) for a proposed transfer of control.

The Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (CTDPUC) has recently concluded its investigation of the proposed transfer of control in Docket No. 98-02-20, Joint Application of SBC Communications Inc. and Southern New England Telecommunications Corporation for a change of Control. In the September 2, 1998 Decision in that docket, CTDPUC found that the proposed merger was in the public interest and that SBC possessed the requisite financial, technological and managerial suitability and responsibility. CTDPUC also found that approval of the proposed merger would provide SNET with the increased expertise, financial and technological resources to continue its infrastructure development, offer new telecommunications services and enhance competition in the Connecticut marketplace.

It is the latter CTDUC finding that I believe is the key factor in its approval of the merger because SBC has demonstrated a commitment to the State of Connecticut through its decision to introduce new technologies (e.g., Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL) and promote local exchange competition by bringing its expertise to further develop SNET's operational support systems (OSS). For example, SBC's commitment to introduce ADSL should benefit the state's business community by affording SNET the ability to introduce new, high speed data access services and products in Connecticut. Similarly, SBC's resources

Chairman Kennard Page 2

and experience should provide SNET with the ability to further develop and offer faster access to OSS. In both cases, the proposed merger will provide SNET with the resources to introduce new products while promoting local exchange service competition in a more timely fashion than had SNET remained an independent telephone company.

Finally, SBC has indicated its willingness to increase employee levels in Connecticut not only through an increase in the number of SNET employees, but also through the location of its regional wireless headquarters in the state. Location of these headquarters as well as SBC's possible location of its Northeastern competitive local exchange company headquarters in the state, will directly benefit Connecticut through an increase in the level of investments in the state and local communities

It is for these reasons that I believe timely Commission approval of the SBC/SNET merger is in Connecticut's best interest. I strongly urge the Commission to expeditiously complete its investigation and concur with the CTDPUC's Decision to approve the proposed merger.

S**i**ncerely,

JOHN G. ROWLAND

Cc: Office of Consumer Counsel